

CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

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EASTERN EUROPE: Increasing Concern Over Poland

Growing anxiety in Eastern Europe over preparations for the Polish party congress in mid-July increases chances that a Warsaw Pact summit might be held before then to warn the Poles against sweeping liberalization. [REDACTED]

A high-level Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry official said last week that the movement for renewal within the Polish party is sending "shock waves" throughout the Communist world and that the Poles could easily go beyond the "critical point." He stated that serious consideration is being given to convening a summit soon to discuss events in Poland. [REDACTED]

Hungary and Bulgaria, which have thus far treated Polish events in a low-key manner, also are showing signs of heightened concern. The Bulgarian party reportedly issued on Monday an internal letter deploring the election of large numbers of "extremists" as delegates to the party congress. Several Hungarian officials privately expressed concern recently over what they called a dramatic increase in crime and a breakdown in public order in Poland. [REDACTED]

The East Germans have begun to gather firsthand information on the Polish situation and to lobby against liberalization. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] senior East German officials are traveling to Poland to seek out "reliable" Polish functionaries and urge greater resistance to party reforms and delay of the congress. East Berlin and Prague both would like party chief Kania to be replaced by hardliner Stefan Olszowski before the congress. [REDACTED]

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